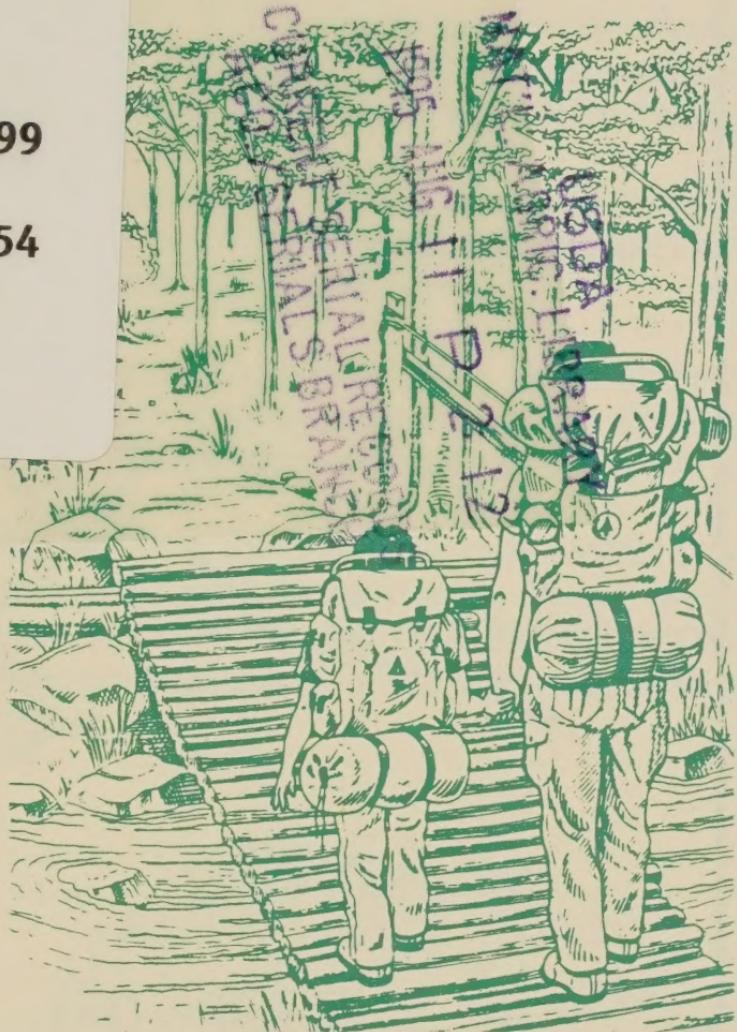


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Sherando Lake Area Trails

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Pedlar Ranger District
2424 Magnolia Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 22416
703-261-6105

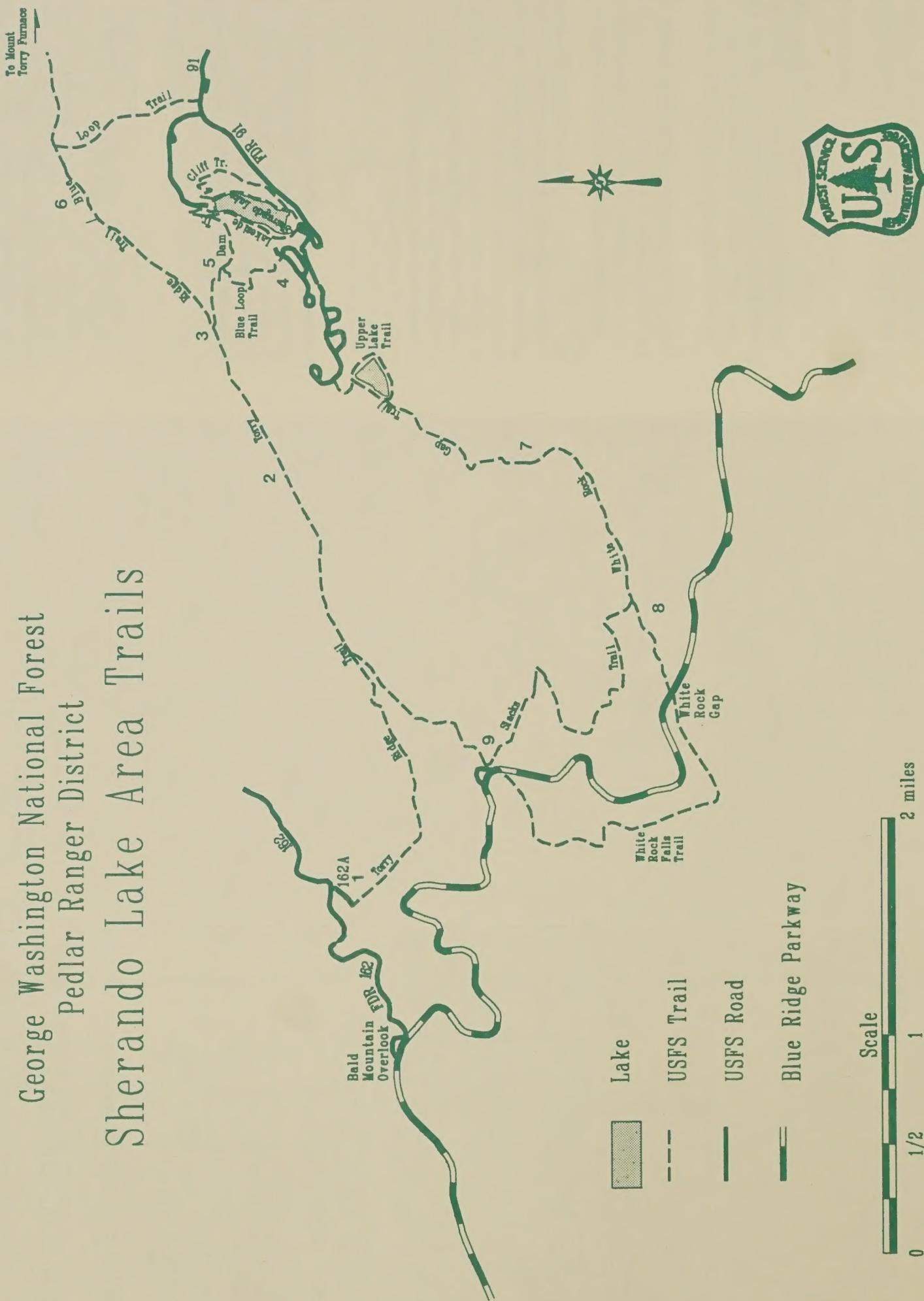
George Washington National Forest

Forest
Service



Southern
Region

George Washington National Forest
Pedlar Ranger District
Sherando Lake Area Trails



White Rock Falls

1022302012



Planning Your Hike

- Parts of the Torry Ridge and Blue Loop Trails are steep and rocky. Hikers should be in good health and should wear hiking boots or heavy soled shoes. For longer hikes, carry a canteen and plan to spend most of the day.
- Water supplies in developed recreation areas are tested and treated when necessary. Water in springs and streams is not tested, and should be treated before use. A recommended treatment is to bring clear water to a rolling boil for 5 minutes.
- If you are hiking alone, let someone know what trails you plan to use. Better yet, hike with a partner, it's safer and more fun!
- The Torry Ridge, Blue Loop, White Rock Gap, and Slacks Trails are blazed as noted. Other trails are maintained and can easily be followed.
- All trails on the Pedlar Ranger District have a pack-it-in, pack-it-out policy. Please bring all trash out with you. **GO ONE STEP FURTHER** - bring out trash that less thoughtful people have left behind.



The White Rock Falls Trail is 2.5 miles and blazed with yellow markers. The highlight of the trail is an impressive gorge, which has a waterfall and wading pool. A 4.7 mile circuit can be made using portions of The Slacks Trail and the White Rock Gap Trail. The name "White Rock" derives from the abundant quartz found in the area.

The trail begins opposite the White Rock Gap Trail, across the Blue Ridge Parkway, then ends on the Blue Ridge Parkway, 60 yards from the Slacks Overlook at milepost 20.

Slacks Trail

Slacks Trail is 2.6 miles and blue blazed. The trail connects White Rock Gap Trail and Torry Ridge Trail. For the more adventurous, a loop can be made by walking White Rock Gap Trail, Slacks Trail and Torry Ridge Trail, then returning to Sherrando Lake on the Blue Loop Trail.

Points of Interest

9. Here the trail passes below Slacks Overlook, on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The overlook can be reached easily by a short path. The trail also goes through timber stands damaged in an ice storm in 1978. Due to lack of roads into the area, little of the timber was salvaged.

Cliff Trail, Lakeside Trail and Upper Lake Trail

These pleasant trails are recommended for short, leisurely walks near the two lakes. The Cliff Trail is moderately steep at times, but offers a number of excellent views of the lake area.

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

Sherando Lake Area Trails

The Sherando Lake area offers trails for both families and the more adventurous hikers. The lake trails are gentle and well kept, for shorter, more leisurely walks. The ridge trails are longer and rougher, providing a more vigorous day hike and they loop farther around the Sherando Lakes. The trails are accessible from the recreation area and from the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Torry Ridge Trail

Torry Ridge trail is 7.0 miles and yellow blazed. The trail begins about 0.5 mile from the Blue Ridge Parkway and can be reached by turning at the Bald Mountain Overlook of the Parkway at milepost 22, following the gravel road approximately 1 mile, then taking the first road to the right to the former fire tower site. Parking is available at this site.

The trail follows the crest of Torry Ridge and connects after approximately 3 miles with the Blue Loop Trail above Sherando Lake. The hiker can reach the recreation area following the Blue Loop Trail (west side) 0.6 mile down the mountain to Camping Loop A. The area can also be accessed by the east side of the Blue Loop Tail which brings the hiker to the parking lot along the main road into Sherando Lake. The Blue Loop Trail should not be confused with the Slacks Trail, which intersects with Torry Ridge Trail approximately one mile from Bald Mountain.

The Torry Ridge Trail continues along the crest of the Torry Ridge for another 3 miles to the Mount Torry Furnace on State Route 664.

Points of Interest

1. To the left is an excellent view of Mill Creek Drainage and Kelly Mountain. The ridge to the left is Torry Ridge, which the trail will follow. To the right is Sherando Lake and the ridges beyond.
2. Here is a glimpse through the canopy of Kelly Mountain, of the Upper Lake and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Also, there are many good views from the ridge before reaching this point.

3. The rockslides here provide excellent views of Kelly Mountain, Mill Creek Drainage, Big Levels, and Sherando Lake. The slides descend the ridge, some reaching the creek below. Hikers may turn right and take the west side of the Blue Loop Trail down the mountain to Sherando Lake, continue east on the Torry Ridge Trail another mile to the east side of the Blue Loop Trail to descend the mountain to Sherando Lake, or continue along the Torry Ridge Trail to the Mount Torry Furnace.

Blue Loop Trail

The Blue Loop Trail is 2.5 miles and blazed with blue markers. The trail begins in the campground at Sherando Lake, beside campsite A-6. The trail climbs to the top of Torry Ridge and circles Sherando Lake, ending at FDR 91 near the fishermen's access road.

Points of Interest

4. Torry Spring provides evidence of the water storage capacity of the forest mountains and is about one-third of the way up the ridge.
5. Here is Lookout Rock, which offers an inspiring view of Sherando Lake and the surrounding ridges.
6. Another rockslide offers a good view of Sherando Lake.

White Rock Gap Trail

White Rock Gap Trail is 2.5 miles and blazed in orange. The trail begins at the Upper Lake and follows Back Creek to White Rock Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Its more gentle grade makes the trail ideal for family day hikes.

Points of Interest

7. Back Creek is a stream nature lovers will want to explore. Most other trails in the area follow ridges or slopes far above the water.
8. Here an old homesite provides an open area which serves as habitat for a variety of wildlife.



White Rock Falls

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